



Serial No.: Filed herewith
 Confirmation No.: Not known
 Applicant: FREEMAN, Neville J. et al.
 Atty. Ref.: 13485.0004.NPUS00

REMARKS:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

The above noted amendment to the specification has been made to assert Applicants' priority claims under 35 USC §371 and Article 4 of the Paris Convention. No new matter is being introduced by the proposed amendment.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The above amendments to the claims have been made to bring the application into better condition for examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Specifically, claim 25 a claim directed to a kit, which is permitted under United Kingdom's patent law, has been canceled because such claims are not permitted under US law. Claims 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17, 22, 24, and 26 have been amended to remove the multiple - multiple dependency of these claims, which is permitted under United Kingdom's patent law. A marked up copy of the amended claims 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17, 22, 24, and 26 are attached to this paper for use by the Examiner.

Applicants submit that the amendments do not narrow the scope of protection sought in any manner. Further these amendments are being made for purposes unrelated to the art of record and have been made to place the application in the best format possible for examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

The claims and amended claims are submitted as being clearly distinct and patentable over the art of record and therefore Applicants respectfully request their entry and allowance by the Examiner.

Applicants request for any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

Applicants' representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2508, referencing Order No. 13485.0004.NPUS00.



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In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, Applicants request that the Examiner directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

In order to promote the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is authorized to contact the undersigned by electronic mail. Please address all e-mail to: whitec@howrey.com

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carter J. White".

Carter J. White

Patent Attorney

Reg. No. 41374

Tel. 713 268 1372

Date: 15 Mar 02



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CLAIMS SHOWING AMENDMENTS:

5. (Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the planar optical component is a sensor.
6. (Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 5 wherein the sensor is mounted on a sensor base and is in intimate thermal contact therewith.
7. (Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein the optical assembly and inner temperature controller are contained within a conducting sleeve.
10. (Amended) A device as claimed in ~~either of claims 8 or 9~~ claim 8 wherein the heat shroud comprises an integral laser module holder for inserting a laser module.
11. (Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any of claims 3 to 10~~ claim 3 further comprising a Peltier exhaust assembly which permits thermal transfer from an exhaust side of the inner Peltier to the environment.
13. (Amended) A device as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12~~ wherein the Peltier exhaust assembly comprises: means for thermally contacting the inner Peltier assembly with the exhaust plate.
15. (Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any of claims 11 to 14~~ claim 11 wherein the Peltier exhaust assembly comprises: an exhaust guide capable of fitting over the insulating collar of a laser module.
17. (Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 further comprising: an outer temperature controller which permits coarse temperature control of one or more of the group selected from the conducting sleeve, laser module, laser-module holder, the exterior parts of the optical assembly and the electronics.



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22. (Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 which is capable of sequential construction from a plurality of discrete assemblies, said assemblies being:
 an optical assembly contained within a conducting sleeve;
 an inner Peltier assembly comprising an inner Peltier; and
 a Peltier exhaust assembly, wherein: (1) the inner Peltier assembly is housed within the cavity of the optical assembly so as to achieve intimate thermal contact with the planar optical component and (2) the Peltier exhaust assembly permits thermal transfer from the exhaust side of the inner Peltier to the environment and is thermally isolated from the conducting sleeve.

24. (Amended) A device as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ 1 wherein the planar optical component has a plurality of waveguides.

26. (Amended) A process for constructing a device as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 24~~ claim 1, the process comprising the steps of:
 inserting an optical assembly in a conducting sleeve comprising an integral laser module housing;
 inserting a laser module into the laser module housing;
 housing an inner Peltier assembly in the cavity of the optical assembly so as to achieve thermal contact with the planar optical component ;
 positioning a Peltier exhaust assembly in thermal isolation from the conducting sleeve so as to permit thermal transfer from the exhaust side of the inner Peltier to the environment.